Mr. C. O. Madhavan: In 1108, for Trivandrum the rate was Rs. 19-15-0; and in 1109, the corresponding rate was Rs. 17-0-0.

Mr. P. Padmanabhan Tampi: May I know the rate for 1107?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan: There was no transport to Trivandrum that year. There was transport that year to Munambam and the rate to Munambam in 1107 was Rs. 45 and in 1108 it went down to Rs. 37½.

President: The motion before the House is that Government be given a supplementary grant of Rs. 5,728 towards transport charges of salt and towards payment to the staff for Sri Chitra Thirunal Muthusvami Salt Factory and for the Tattarippu Odai Salt Factory.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I wish to speak a few words.

President: You had sat down. I can't help it.

The demand was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 700 under item XXIV—Stationery and Printing. Sir, a staff consisting of an Assistant Engineer, a foreman, a clerk and a lascar is now engaged in taking stock of the type-plant in the Central Prision Press and the Government Press. This staff has been working for nearly 6 months now and the period will close in a few days. So far, the stock taking of the type plant in the type stores in the Government Press and in the Central Prison Press has been finished. And there yet remains the stock taking of the type plant in the composing sections in the Government Press. After taking stock, an inventory has to be prepared and it has to be compared with the book balances.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know whether it is the idea of the Government to complete the stock taking at least this time?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know from the Chief Secretary how many times officers were deputed previously to take stock in the Government Press and why their work was suspended or discontinued?

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Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : The last occasion when stock taking of the type plant was done was 19 years ago. Subsequently, in 1100, an officer from the Account Office, Mr. N. Govinda Pillai was deputed for taking stock in the general stores in the Government Press. He completed the stock taking of the general stores, but he has not had the technical qualifications to do the stock taking of the type plant. So, he did not take up that work and now an Assistant Engineer has been deputed for the purpose. Government hope that within the extension of 6 months that is now asked for it will be possible to finish the stock taking of the type plant in the Government Press as well as in the Central Prison Press.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know from the Chief Secretary whether the report of the previous officer was submitted to Government and whether any deficiency of type was noted by Government?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : Yes. The report was submitted and it has been engaging the attention of Government. It was sent to the Superintendent of the Government Press; his remarks were obtained and the papers have now come to Government for final orders.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know how long it took for this transmition of correspondences ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : The officer was deputed for stock taking in 1100. He worked for 15 months and he must have taken a few months more for submitting his report.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know whether any additional furniture was purchased for the use of the Government Press after an officer was appointed for stock-taking ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : I can't say exactly whether any furniture was purchased. But if purchased, the articles must have been brought into the registers. It is not possible to do the stock taking often. Mr. Govinda Pillai finished the work in 1101 and all purchases made since then have been entered in the books. During the next stock taking the deficiency if any will be noted and due action taken against the officer at fault.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : Has the officer deputed for this work any special trained qualification ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : He is a Mechanical Engineer and is competent to do the work.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know how stock-taking is going to be done with regard to the types in the composing section of the Government Press ?

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Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I am not a technical expert. I believe the honourable member wants to know whether the officer is going to take the weight of the different varieties of types separately or only the total weight? Within the period of 6 months for which the grant is asked for it will not be possible to take the weight of the different varieties of types separately. All that is intended to do is to take the total weight of all the types together and prepare an inventory. I know this will not be considered very satisfactory. According to the stock taking officer it would require a period of two years to take the weight of different varieties of types. Government thought that under the existing conditions it would not be possible to employ the necessary staff for two years. Government will be satisfied if a general stock taking of all the types is done at present and later on when the financial conditions improve it may be possible to arrange for a detailed stock taking. The present proposal is only to take the weight of all the types together.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether there was any theft of types in the Government Press?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I have not heard of any theft recently. I think there occurred some theft on a former occasion and the matter was enquired into and whatever possible was done. It is with a view to prevent such thefts and leakages that the Government have decided to take stock, compare the existing stock with the book balances, find out the deficiencies and ask the officers concerned to account for such deficiencies.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Suppose the costly types are stolen and inferior ones are replaced—then how can the exact weight of the stolen types be ascertained?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: It is not possible to find out the exact weight of the types stolen. This can only be found out if the weights of the different varieties are noted down separately. Under the existing financial conditions Government do not propose to incur more expenditure than is absolutely necessary and are therefore asking only for a small grant to complete the work that is now being done. If the Government think it necessary to have a detailed stock taking they may consider the question later on and make the necessary arrangements. But at present all that is intended to do is to ascertain the total weight of all the types in the composing sections and to prepare a proper inventory and compare it with the book balances to find out the deficiency if any in the total weight. The staff now engaged in the work consists of an Assistant Engineer, a foreman, a clerk, and a lascar. The Assistant Engineer is paid his substantive pay plus an allowance of Rs. 80 per mensem. What is now proposed is to revert him to his permanent post in the Public Works Department and retain the other

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members of the staff and also appoint a few more *viz.*, 2 Assistant Foremen. 4 compositors, and 3 clerks. This additional staff is necessary to complete the work that is being done. The clerks are required to prepare the inventory, compare it with the book balances and note down the deficiencies if any. The Assistant Engineer will, hereafter, if the grant is allowed, only supervise the work of the subordinates. He will go to the Press occasionally, say, once or twice a week, check the work done by the foremen and the compositors and will prepare the final report.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: What is the sort of checking to be done once in a week ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The actual work will be done by the foremen and the compositors. The Assistant Engineer can only do test checking. That is all that is contemplated and is possible. I think the purpose which the Government have in view will be served by this arrangement. I am only asking for a sum of Rs. 700 to meet the expense for a month and a half during the current year *i. e.*, for the period from the 16th Edavom to the end of Mithunam. Provision for Karkadakam will be made in the budget for 1111. I hope the grant will be allowed by the House.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam : ഞാൻ ഈ ഡിമാൻറിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

ഗവർണ്മെൻറ് പ്രസ്സിൽ ഒരുസ്പെഷ്യൽ ആഫീസറേയുംഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സ്റ്റാഫിനേയും വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഡിമാൻറാണിത്;ഇതിലേക്ക് ൭൦൦ രൂപാ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. മേൽനോട്ടം വഹിക്കുന്നതിനു് അൻപതു രൂപയാണു് അലവൻസ് നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതു് ഒരിക്കലും നിതീകരിക്കത്തക്കതല്ല. ബഡ്ജിറിനു ഇനി ഒന്നരമാസമേയുള്ളൂ. ഈ ഒന്നരമാസക്കാലത്തിനിടക്കു് ഇതു ബദ്ധപ്പെട്ടു് ഈചിലവു് ചെയ്യേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ല. ഒന്നരമാസം കഴിഞ്ഞു് ചെയ്താലും മതിയാകുന്നതാണു്.

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: ഇപ്പോൾ ജോലി ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നവരെ പിരിച്ചു വിട്ടിട്ടു് ഒന്നരമാസം കഴിഞ്ഞു് വീണ്ടും കൊണ്ടുവരണമെന്നാണൊ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു്.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: അതെ. അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്താൽ ഈ വിശേഷാൽചെലവു് വരികയില്ല. തൊഴിൽ ഇല്ലാതെ അലഞ്ഞു നടക്കുന്നവർ ധാരാളമുള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് ആൾകിട്ടാതെ വരികയില്ല വെറും ക്ഷമമായ ഒരു സമയത്തെ സൂപ്പർ വിഷനുവേണ്ടി അൻപതു രൂപാ അലവൻസു് നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു് വളരെ കൂടുതലാണു്. ബഡ്ജ

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[Mr. J. John Kattakayam.]

റിന്റെ ശേഷം അടുത്ത ബഡ്ജറ്റ് വരുന്നതിനിടക്ക് പലപ്രാവശ്യം സപ്ലിമെന്ററി ഗ്രാന്റ് കൊണ്ടു വരാതിരിക്കുവാൻ അതാതു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു് മേലധികാരികൾ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇൗഡിമാന്റിന് ബഡ്ജറ്റുകാലംവരെ കാത്തിരിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായത്തെ വീണ്ടും ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

The Demand was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—INVESTMENTS ON REPRODUCTIVE WORKS.

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai: Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1,28,800 under Demand No. XXXV, Investments on Reproductive Works.

Sir, a grant of Rs. 3 lakhs was made for starting a Rubber Factory. It was expected that the P. W. D. will be able to spend about Rs. 45,000 for the factory building and so the balance of Rs. 2,55,000 alone was provided in this year's budget but as some of the building materials had to be got down from abroad the Public Works Department was not able to utilise the amount during 1109. That sum of Rs. 45,000 is to be met from this year's budget. We had to meet also the following additional expenditure *Viz.*, for the purchase of machinery Rs. 2,20,012 against the budget allotment of Rs. 2,05,000. The excess was due to the exchange rate as when I submitted the scheme the Reich mark was equal to a Rupee.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know when the order was placed with the company for the purchase of the machinery.

Mr. N. K. Padmanabha Pillai. On the 3rd September 1934.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: What was the exchange ratio on the date the Council sanctioned the budget and the ratio on the date the order was placed?

The Council adjourned for lunch at 1-2 P. M, and re-assembled at 2 P. M. Mr. M. Govindan, one of the passed of Chairman, Presiding.

MEMBER SWORN.

When Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai began to take the oath Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai raised the following point of order.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: I rise to a point of order. This is not swearing time, and the agenda does not provide for any member taking his oath now. We have to continue the business where we left it when we adjourned for lunch.

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